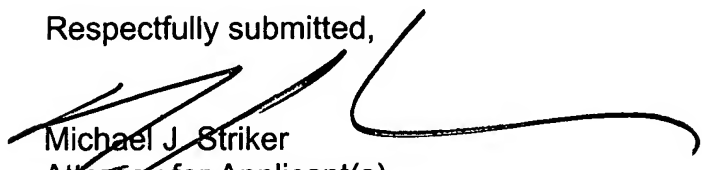


10/019297

3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 JAN 2002

Consideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Claims

1. Wiper strip (18) for windshield wipers having a profile spine (20) and a functional part (22) that is connected to the profile spine (20) via a tilting bridge piece (26) and that bears against it in the tilted position, characterized in that the functional part (22) includes a supporting section (30) that is connected to the profile spine (20) via the first tilting bridge piece (26) and to a wiper wedge (32) via a second tilting bridge piece (28).

2. Wiper strip (18) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first tilting bridge piece (26) and the second tilting bridge piece (28) are coordinated with each other in such a fashion that, when the functional part (22) tilts, the first tilting bridge piece (26) folds completely over at first, and the supporting section (30) bears against the profile spine (20), while the second tilting bridge piece (28) then folds over and the wiper wedge (32) of the functional part (22) bears against the supporting section (30) with one shoulder (50).

3. Wiper strip (18) according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the profile spine (20) has a total width of 6 to 10 mm and a total height of 3.5 to 7 mm, wherein grooves (38) for accommodating springs (24) are provided on the opposing longitudinal sides, the thickness of which grooves (38) is between 0.7 and 1.2 mm and the width of which is between 2.5 and 4.5 mm.

4. Wiper strip (18) according to claim 3, characterized in that the profile spine (20) is limited at the top by means of a cover strip (36) that is 0.5 to 2 mm high, that further opposing longitudinal grooves (42) about the longitudinal grooves (38) in the direction facing the functional part (22), wherein intermediate walls (40) between the longitudinal grooves (38) and (42) have a thickness of 0.6 to 1 mm, and cover strips (44) between the longitudinal grooves (42) and the functional part (22) have a thickness of 0.5 to 1 mm.

5. Wiper strip (18) according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the functional part (22), including the supporting section (30), has its greatest width of preferably 4 to 6 mm on the side facing the first tilting bridge piece (26), wherein the width of the supporting section (30), a wiper wedge (32), and the wiper lip (34) decreases continuously toward the exposed end of the wiper lip (34) to a value of 0.5 to 1 mm.

6. Wiper strip (18) according to claim 5, characterized in that the functional part (22), including the supporting section (30), has a total height of 4 to 7 mm.

7. Wiper strip (18) according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the second tilting bridge piece (28) is formed by two opposing open spaces (52) extending in the longitudinal direction of the wiper strip (18) that are 0.3 to 0.8 mm high and are situated 0.8 to 1.5 mm away from the upper edge of the supporting section (30), that a distance of 0.4 to 1 mm remains between the open spaces (52) in the middle of the functional part (22) for the second tilting bridge piece (28), and that the height of the second tilting bridge piece (28) corresponds to the height of the open spaces (52).

8. Wiper strip (18) according to claim 7, characterized in that the open spaces (52) expand in the region of the second tilting bridge piece (28) toward the supporting section (30) by means of an undercut (58) that increases the height of the open spaces (52) by 0.2 to 0.4 mm.

9. Wiper strip (18) according to [one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, characterized in that the first tilting bridge piece (26) is formed by two opposing open spaces (46) extending in the longitudinal direction of the wiper strip (18) and has a width of 0.5 to 1 mm and a height of 0.6 to 1.4 mm, wherein the open spaces (46) have a height of 0.4 to 0.8 mm and expand in the region of the first tilting bridge piece (26) toward the profile spine (20) by means of undercuts (48).

3 4 5 6 7 8

10. Wiper strip (18) according to [one of the claims 1 or 2 or 5 through 9]
Claim 1, characterized in that the profile spine (20) is secured to an unarticulated carrier (62) by means of a cover strip (60).

| Figure | Parameter | Value |
|--------|--------------------|-------|
| 1 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 2 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 3 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 4 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 5 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 6 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 7 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 8 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 9 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 10 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 11 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 12 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 13 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 14 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 15 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 16 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 17 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 18 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 19 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 20 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 21 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 22 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 23 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 24 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 25 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 26 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 27 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 28 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 29 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 30 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 31 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 32 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 33 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 34 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 35 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 36 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 37 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 38 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 39 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 40 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 41 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 42 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 43 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 44 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 45 | Number of blocks | 10 |
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| 52 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 53 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 54 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 55 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 56 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 57 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 58 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 59 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 60 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 61 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 62 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 63 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 64 | Number of subjects | 10 |
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| 68 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 69 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 70 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 71 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 72 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 73 | Number of subjects | 10 |
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| 75 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 76 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 77 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 78 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 79 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 80 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 81 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 82 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 83 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 84 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 85 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 86 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 87 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 88 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 89 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 90 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 91 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 92 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 93 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 94 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 95 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 96 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 97 | Number of subjects | 10 |
| 98 | Number of trials | 100 |
| 99 | Number of blocks | 10 |
| 100 | Number of subjects | 10 |